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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 26 January 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia concerning the deployment by Russia of the Tactical Operational Missile Complex on the occupied territories of Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the deployment by Russia of the Tactical Operational Missile Complex on the occupied territories of Georgia

Based on the source of the law enforcement agencies of the Southern Federal District of the Russian Federation, Russian news agencies spread reports on 24 January 2011, according to which an additional battalion of the Tactical Operational Missile Complex "Tochka-U" with a range of 120 kilometres was deployed on the so-called military base of the Russian Federation, in the Russian-occupied Tskhinvali region of Georgia. In addition, as the Russian Ministry of Defence announced in December 2010, an artillery battalion equipped with Smerch multiple-launch rocket systems with a range of 70-90 kilometres was stationed in the vicinity of Tskhinvali.

It needs to be emphasized that it was with the use of "Tochka-U" systems that the Russian Federation completely destroyed the city of Bamut (Republic of Chechnya) and eliminated its peaceful population. The ballistic missiles of this system can be equipped with cluster warheads (consisting of 50 bomblets) and nuclear warheads.

The deployment of the Tactical Operational Missile Complex "Tochka-U" and the artillery battalion equipped with Smerch multiple-launch rocket systems poses a direct and overt threat to the peaceful population and territory of Georgia. By taking such actions, Russia follows through with its aggressive policy directed towards the destruction of the Georgian statehood and elimination of the peaceful population of Georgia, as well as towards causing large-scale instability in the Caucasus and throughout the Black Sea region.

The deployment of the offensive rocket systems in the occupied region points clearly to the Russian Federation's plans to launch open military aggression against Georgia.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia demands strongly that the international community, international organizations and partner countries adopt active and effective measures in order to pressure Russia to end its aggressive policy against Georgia, fulfil its international commitments, including the 12 August 2008 ceasefire agreement, undertake a commitment on the non-use of force and ensure the full and immediate de-occupation of the Georgian territory.

Tbilisi, 24 January 2011